

By: Lucio, et al.

S.C.R. No. 30

1 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Mexico is the United States' second-largest trading
3 partner, and approximately 80 percent of all United States trade
4 with Mexico, equivalent to \$230 billion in goods, travels over
5 Texas highways; trade between the two countries has grown from
6 \$81.5 billion in 1993 to \$232 billion in 2002; and

7 WHEREAS, Mexico is Texas' number one trading partner and this
8 relationship is an important factor in Texas' economic growth and
9 prosperity; during the 1990s, the Texas economy generally
10 outperformed the nation's economy, due in large part to the
11 strength of the state's exports to Mexico; roughly one out of every
12 10 manufacturing jobs in Texas is tied to exports to Mexico and 44
13 percent of Texas' total exports are made to Mexico; and

14 WHEREAS, About 80 percent of all truck traffic between Mexico
15 and the United States enters through a Texas border point of entry;
16 between 1995 and 1999 trade through Texas ports by truck increased
17 by 85 percent, exceeding \$106 billion a year; in 1999 about 4.4
18 million truck crossings were made through nine Texas ports, and
19 Laredo, the busiest port on the border, had 2.8 million commercial
20 vehicle crossings; and

21 WHEREAS, Two-way commerce between Texas and Mexico has more
22 than doubled since 1993, from \$100 billion to \$235 billion; over the
23 last seven years, Texas has exported more than \$272 billion to
24 Mexico, and in 2002 those exports accounted for six percent of the

1 gross state product; in that same year exports to Mexico added \$73.2
2 billion in output, \$19.8 billion in earnings, and 745,000 jobs to
3 the Texas economy; now, therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, That the 79th Legislature of the State of Texas
5 hereby urge the State of Texas to continue to pursue opportunities
6 to increase trade with Mexico by creating policies and programs
7 aimed at increasing trade, including improving communications and
8 cooperation, and by encouraging meetings and interactions among
9 federal, state, and local governments; and, be it further

10 RESOLVED, That the legislature hereby encourage the State of
11 Texas to strengthen ties with neighboring Mexican states and urge
12 the Texas and Mexican authorities to develop a working plan to study
13 the flow of commerce and propose initiatives to mitigate delays at
14 border crossings between Mexico and Texas.